



Louisiana Shrimp Festival & Shrimp Aid SOS: Save Our Shimpers!

Date: October 20th, 11am - 7pm

Location: The Broadside, 600 N. Broad Street, New Orleans

In case you didn't know

The local shrimping community in Louisiana is facing an unprecedented crisis, and it's not due to a lack of shrimp, but because of the influx of imported farmed shrimp. These toxic imports, contaminated with harmful bacteria and often produced under inhumane conditions, are threatening the survival of Louisiana's shrimpers and endangering consumer health.

In 2024, dock prices plummeted to 45-65 cents per pound, making it impossible for shrimpers to cover basic costs. This has left much of the Louisiana shrimp fleet at the dock, with the possibility more of the same, or even worse in 2025. The crisis extends beyond shrimpers, threatening the entire regional seafood industry, which relies on the infrastructure provided by the shrimp sector.

So time is up, everyone must step up and do their part. In that spirit of action (Louisiana-style) we are pleased to announce the inaugural **Louisiana Shrimp Festival & Shrimp Aid**, a day of family-friendly fun, of amazing music, moving presentations, phenomenal food, a day of education and celebration.

What is it?

The Louisiana Shrimp Festival & Shrimp Aid aims to raise awareness about the challenges faced by our local shrimp and fishing industries while creating new economic opportunities for our coastal fishing communities and the broader regional seafood sector. With an urgent call to action of **SOS: Save our Shrimpers**, the festival will feature award-winning musical artists like Louis Michot and Swamp Magic, Sunpie and the Louisiana Sunspots, 79rs Gang and Amigos do Samba. Food booths include participation from top New Orleans restaurants and pop-ups, including Chef Susan Spicer's Rosedale, Chef Jose Blanco's Waska, and Chef Greta Reid's Greta Sushi. Additionally, a variety of youth activities including "Shrimp Arts & Crafts" will be offered, ensuring a fun and family-friendly experience typical of Louisiana festivals.

Shrimp Aid

Another vital part of the event is the inaugural "Shrimp Aid," which will be held at the onsite Pavilion. The day-long event will bring together members of the shrimping community, local chefs, industry experts, and community representatives for panels, discussions, and documentary presentations.

Speakers include David Williams of SeaD Consulting, who has developed and launched quick testing technology and protocol which can determine whether shrimp is wild or farm-raised. SeaD recently made a splash by publishing the results of tests conducted at another regional shrimp festival, finding rampant use of imported farmed shrimp at food booths. Another exciting presentation will include the official launch of the Louisiana Seafood Passport, an exciting new program which encourages and incentivizes the public to frequent eateries that feature Gulf seafood, an important and long-awaited initiative.

Panels will include "Shrimper Stories," featuring local shrimpers as they share their stories and experiences, the good and bad, as well as opinions as to how we might begin to address some of the existential issues facing the region. For the second panel, shrimpers will be joined by others in the community who share a vested interest in the ongoing vitality of the shrimp and seafood industry. Very basically, Shrimp Aid is an opportunity for the public to hear the true, compelling and inspiring stories directly from the shrimpers, without filters, and to be part of the effort to come up with new solutions together and forge a path forward, and a future full of shrimpers and new stories.

When and where is it?

The first Louisiana Shrimp Festival (LSF) will be held on Sunday, October 20th, from 11 AM to 7 PM at The Broadside, located at 600 N. Broad Street in New Orleans' Mid-City neighborhood. Ample street parking is available. We request that attendees don't park in the Broad Theater parking lot.

How Much Does It Cost?

Admission to Shrimp Fest operates on a pay-what-you-can-if-you-can basis, with pre-sale general admission tickets starting at \$12. Discounted youth and senior tickets are \$7. Special ticket packages are also available featuring access to a private viewing area, and a tickets to the LSF launch party. Free tickets are available for youth organizations and individuals who need financial assistance. Please call 504-450-4620 and leave a message.

What Will Proceeds Be Used For?

All net proceeds will be directed to organizations chosen by local shrimpers and to pilot projects designed to strengthen existing markets and create new opportunities for our regional fishing communities.

Do You Need Sponsors?

Yes! The Louisiana Shrimp Festival & Shrimp Aid could use your help. You can be a part of helping to avert the immediate crisis our shrimpers are facing, and to help us face the ongoing challenges moving forward. This being our inaugural year, we are working hard to secure enough funding to cover production costs. The more we can cover these expenses with the help from sponsors (be they individuals, companies or organizations), the more of Festival proceeds we can direct towards funding the programs mentioned previously. A complete funding statement is available by reaching out to festival

organizers at admin@louisianashrimpfestival.org, or by calling 504-450-4620.

Who Are We?

The Louisiana Shrimp Festival & Shrimp Aid is organized and produced via a collaboration between Southern Artisanal Food Enterprises and a consortium of local fishing industry members, along with educational, governmental, and nonprofit organizations dedicated to supporting our local fishers.

Volunteer Opportunities

There are many, so jump onboard and help SOS: Save our Shrimpers!

<https://louisianashrimpfestival.org/volunteer-sign-up>

How Do I Find Out More?

For more information:

<http://LouisianaShrimpFestival.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/louisianashrimpfestival>

<https://www.instagram.com/lashrimpfestival>

Email info@louisianashrimpfestival.org

Phone: 504-450-4620 (this number has been very busy, so please leave a message in the case you get no answer)